

**REMARKS**

The Applicants thank the Examiner for the thorough consideration given the present application. Claims 1-20 are pending. Claims 1 and 11 are amended. Claims 1 and 11 are independent. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks set forth herein.

**Reasons for Entry of Amendments**

At the outset, it is respectfully requested that this Amendment be entered into the Official File in view of the fact that the amendments to the claims automatically place the application in condition for allowance.

In the alternative, if the Examiner does not agree that this application is in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that this Amendment be entered for the purpose of appeal. This Amendment was not presented at an earlier date in view of the fact that the Applicants did not fully appreciate the Examiner's rejection until receiving this Final Office Action.

**Allowable Subject Matter**

The Examiner again states that claims 2-9 and 12-19 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Rather than rewriting any of objected to claims 2-9 and 12-19 in independent form at this time, instead, independent claims 1 and 11 have each been amended to recite a combination of elements not suggested by the reference cited by the Examiner.

**Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)**

Claims 1, 10, 11, and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Sato et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Complete discussions of the Examiner's rejections are set forth in the Office Action, and are not being repeated here.

**Amendments to Independent Claims 1 and 11**

While not conceding the appropriateness of the Examiner's rejection, but merely to advance prosecution of the instant application, independent claim 1 is amended herein to recite a combination of elements directed to a tricycle with a rocking mechanism, including *inter alia* the resilient means extending laterally between the pair of bell cranks.

In addition, independent claim 11 is amended herein to recite a combination of elements directed to a tricycle with a rocking mechanism, including *inter alia* the shock absorber extending laterally between the pair of bell cranks.

By contrast, as can be seen in Sato et al. FIGS. 2-6, the first embodiment discloses a device lacking a resilient means/shock absorber.

Sato et al. FIGS. 8-12, the modified device merely includes a pair of dampers 71, 72 each extending diagonally between L shaped arms 53, 54, and thus cannot suggest the resilient means/shock absorber extending laterally between the pair of bell cranks, as set forth in independent claims 1 and 11, respectively. The present invention, as set forth in

each of independent claims 1, and 11, provides a simpler device with fewer parts as compared to the device disclosed by Sato et al.

At least for the reasons explained above, the Applicants respectfully submit that the combination of elements as set forth in each of independent claims 1 and 11 is not disclosed or made obvious by the prior art of record, including Sato et al.

Therefore, independent claims 1 and 11 are in condition for allowance.

All dependent claims are in condition for allowance due to their dependency from allowable independent claims, or due to the additional novel features set forth therein.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) are respectfully requested.

### **CONCLUSION**

Since the remaining patents cited by the Examiner have not been utilized to reject claims, but merely to show the state of the art, no comment need be made with respect thereto.

All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and that the present application is in condition for allowance.

If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, he is invited to telephone Carl T. Thomsen (Reg. No. 50,786) at (703) 205-8000.

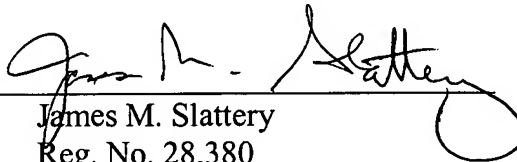
*Application No. 10/606,363*  
*Amendment dated January 17, 2006*  
*Reply to Office Action of October 21, 2005*

*Docket No. 0505-1204P*  
*Art Unit: 3616*  
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If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17, particularly extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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